



In 2023, due to the support from the Colsterworth and District Parish Council to restore the Memorial, the substantial work required was finally approved thanks to the collaboration with **FCC Communities Foundation** who provided a significant grant for the Project.

The partnership between the Parish Council and the **Colsterworth Festival of Remembrance (CFoR)** demonstrated the community's collective support and the fundraising efforts (including the Co-Op Local Community Fund nomination for 2024) embracing the vision to safeguard the Memorial and preserve its historical significance for future generations.

THE RESTORATION WAS COMPLETED 12 SEPTEMBER 2024



FCC Communities Foundation is a not-for-profit business that awards grants for community, conservation and heritage projects from funds donated by FCC Environment through the Landfill Communities Fund

This project has also been supported by:



Balfour Beatty
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The Memorial was erected in **1919** following the 1914-1918 WWI. The memorial is made up of a twenty feet (six metres) cross executed in Clipsham stone. The designer/architect of the memorial is unknown

In **1949** the War Memorial was refurbished and the concrete posts and chain were installed by the Parish Council.

It was designated a grade II listed structure in **1984**.

In **2009**, there was concern over the on-going structural stability of the Memorial as it had some vertical cracking to the shaft and some damage to areas of the masonry.

In **2010** some restoration work was carried out.

By **2019** there was further accelerated deterioration of the stone at the base of the Memorial and the Parish Council applied for grants from the War Memorial Trust and South Kesteven District Council for professional advice to identify the remedial works required.

Due to delays during the Covid Pandemic in 2020 and lack of funding it was in **2023** that the work was finally approved and the restoration completed in 2024

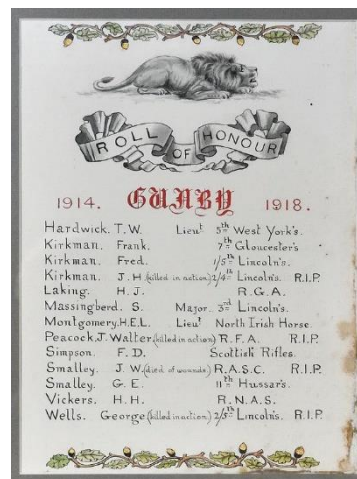


There are thirty-four names on slate plaques gilded with inscriptions on the War Memorial - twenty-five for WW1 and nine for WW2.

These names are representative of families still living in the Parish including the small village of Woolsthorpe by Colsterworth, notable as the birthplace of Sir Isaac Newton



There are further Rolls of Honour to be found in two other villages in the Parish at North Witham and Gunby



***They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them***

There are other military memorials within the Parish Church of St John the Baptist



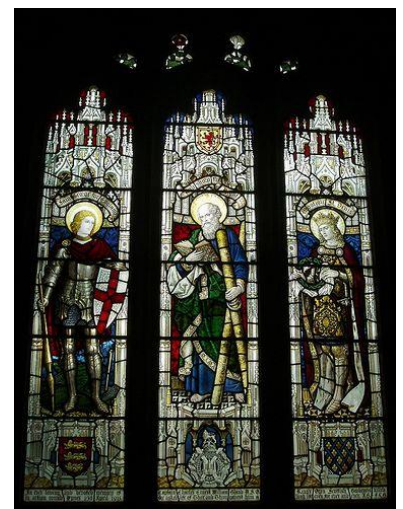
Remembering the Fallen Honouring those who have given their lives is much in evidence in the church. It is used annually to display Remembrance Day wreaths after they have been removed from the War Memorial in the village.

The flags of the Colsterworth British Legion, now no longer in existence, are displayed. St John's is also the Custodian of the Rolls of Honour to those parishioners lost in WWI and those who served and were lost in WW2



The Credence Table, located at the centre of the church, given in memory of the crew of a Lancaster bomber DV226, lost over Germany in 1943, is a more poignant reminder.

Perhaps the saddest reminder of War is the window at the western end of the north aisle given by the widow of Captain Charles Bland, killed in action on 23 April 1915 soon after his daughter was born. Close by, a window in the north wall is in memory of Mrs Bland, a widow until her death in 1956



Other links to our Military History and Heritage



Another connection close by and linked to the heritage of the War Memorial is Twyford Wood which was the site of the Second World War airfield, RAF North Witham, where the allied US Forces played a crucial role in the D-Day operations

Although their names are not recorded in the village, this memorial also allows us to remember those servicemen and servicewomen who have been involved in the many wars and conflicts that have taken place both before and since the two Worlds Wars

Other commemorative items have been donated and placed on the small green surrounding the Memorial by CFoR and members of the community including a metal bench, planters and lone Tommy Statue including a tribute to Animals at War



The serving and veteran members of the Armed Forces are evident in the Parish with a Military Plaque Wall at the local White Lion Public House on the High Street, Colsterworth acknowledging our military history and heritage.

